

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11, having a height in a caudo-cranial direction relative to the orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position in portions of the prosthesis configured to engage lateral edge zones of the corresponding end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies approximately equal to a height of the intervertebral space at the location of the edge zones, and having a height in portions of the prosthesis configured to engage central areas of the corresponding end plates greater than a height of the intervertebral space at the location of the central areas.

3. (Currently Amended) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein the teeth on the central extents of the upper surface and the lower surface of the prosthesis are ~~provided with~~ formed by elevations and depressions in the portions configured to engage the central areas of the corresponding end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies but not in the portions configured to engage the lateral edge zones of the corresponding end plates.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein an angle of inclination of the lateral extent of the lower surface relative to the transverse plane is at least 20°.

6. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein an angle of inclination of a portion of the upper surface of the prosthesis that is configured to engage lateral edge zones of the corresponding end plate of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to the transverse plane is at least 0°.

7-8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The intervertebral joint prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, wherein the lateral extent of the lower surface is located in a dorsolateral area of the prosthesis relative to an orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position.

10. (Previously Presented) An instrument set configured for inserting the prosthesis as claimed in claim 11 or 2, comprising a plurality of rasps adapted to the configuration of the prosthesis and configured to prepare surfaces of the corresponding end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies to accommodate the prosthesis shape,

the rasps being designed such that the rasps remove material from a central area and edge zones of the corresponding end plate surfaces except for a dorsal part of the edge zones.

11. (Currently Amended) An intervertebral joint prosthesis configured for implantation into an intervertebral space between adjacent cervical vertebral bodies, which intervertebral space is delimited by end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies,

wherein the prosthesis comprises an upper cover plate with an upper surface and a lower cover plate with a lower surface, the upper surface and the lower surface being configured to bear on corresponding end plates of the adjacent vertebral bodies, and

wherein ~~the lower surface has~~ and upper surfaces each have a toothed central extent and ~~an untoothed lateral extent located on an edge of the central extent~~ in a coronal plane, the lateral extent extending from the edge of the central extent to ~~lateral~~ sides of the lower and upper cover ~~plate~~ plates, the central extent protruding ~~downward~~ beyond the lateral extent, and the lateral extent having an incline relative to a transverse plane, the coronal plane and the transverse plane being taken relative to an orientation of the prosthesis in an implanted position.

12. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 6, wherein the angle of inclination is 10 to 30°.

13. (Previously Presented) The prosthesis as claimed in claim 11, wherein the prosthesis has a width that is more than 1.63 times as great as its depth.